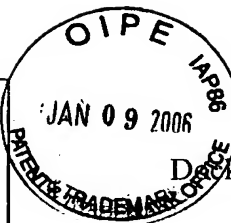


I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: MS Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: January 6, 2006

Signature:

Richard H. Anderson
(Richard H. Anderson)



Document No.: 06005/39710
(PATENT)

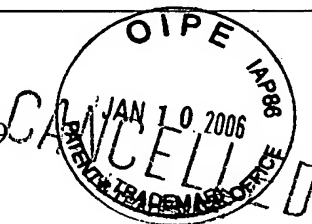
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Ted D. Grabau

Application No.: 10/712,549

Filed: November 13, 2003

For: VULCANIZED RUBBER COMPOSITION
AND ARTICLES MANUFACTURED
THEREFROM



Confirmation No.: 9178

Art Unit: 1713

Examiner: R. A. Lee

AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

MS Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the Office Action dated September 6, 2005, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 3 of this paper.